

Update on West German Hostages for HLTF - 23 June 1987

EUR/WE/CE

Fearing retaliation following their announcement of further actions regarding accused TWA 847 hijacker Mohammad Ali Hammadi on 24 June, the Kohl government has advised West German citizens to leave Lebanon immediately. Bonn is scheduled to decide whether to extradite Hammadi to the United States or try him for air piracy and murder charges in West Germany during a cabinet meeting on that date. If Bonn makes a decision as scheduled, it will almost certainly deny extradition.

25X1

-- Social Democratic Middle East expert Hans-Juergen Wischnewski's plea for more time for his effort to secure the release of the hostages through contacts in Tehran led to the latest delay of decision. The progress of Wischnewski's effort is unknown, but Chancellory chief Wolfgang Schaeuble, who has been wrong before on this count, believes little will come of the last ditch effort.

25X1
25X1

The prosecution of Hammadi in West Germany will undoubtedly be lengthy. According to Chancellory officials, it will take a minimum of 8-9 months to ready the prosecution.

25X1

25X1

25X1